







President Masatake Shiga

trgal Counsel
Adorneyal-law
Kazuo Nakajima

Patent Attorneys

Ryoichi Takaoka

Shinya Jitsuhiro Tadao Takashiba Yoshihiko Ryujio

Yasuhiko Murayama

SHIGA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE

OR Building. 3-23-3 Takadanobaba, Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 169-8925 JAPAN Tel. (81)(3)5330-6011 Fax (81)(3)5330-6062, 6063 http://www.shigapatent.com/

Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P. Suite 700 333 Twin Dolphin Drive Redwood Shores, CA 94065-1418 U.S.A.

June 4, 2003

Norjo Takahashi Takeshi Funayama Takashi Watanabe Masakazu Aoyama

Sumio Tanai Mitsuyoshi Suzuki Kazuya Nishi

Kazuya Nishi Kunio Ueda Noriko Yanai Akihiko Eguchi Fumiko Sakano

Taijiro Ogawa Hideyuki Sugiura Seiji Kato Hiroshi Oshino Sosuke Miyagawa Tadamasa Horiuchi Haruyuki Kinoshita Tetsuo Yamasaki Yoshihiro Kitada Shingo Suzuki Taeko Hattori Takafumi Kaji

U.S. Patent Agents Joel T. Muraoka, Ph.D. Daniel Capian

lechnical Experts
Kazuo O'oka, Ph.D.
Norihiko Ara, Ph.D.
Akinohu Kosukegawa, Ph.D.
tomohiko Ikuta, Ph.D.
Shinsuke Nakamura, Ph.D.
Hiroshi Shimizu, Ph.D.
Katsuhiro Hondou, Ph.D.

Accountant Motomasa Furuya, CPA Re: Information Disclosure Statement

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/664,001.

Applicant: Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation

Your Ref: 032590-071 Our Ref: OSP-9780

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

We wish to report that we received an Office Action dated May 13, 2003, issued on Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-278745, which corresponds to the above U.S. Patent Application. Please note that Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-278745 is a patent application which claims priority on Japanese Patent Applications Nos. Hei 11-263459 and Hei 11-283029 in the same manner as the above U.S. Patent Application.

We enclose copies of the Office Action and three cited references (WO 99/41863, Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. Hei 10-200495 with an English abstract thereof, and Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. 2000-41024 with an English abstract thereof).

Although the due date of filing an Information Disclosure Statement is August 13, 2003, please file the Information Disclosure Statement at the USPTO by <u>June 12</u>, 2003, so as to expedite examination.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your continuing assistance with this application.

Very truly yours,

Yoshitaro NOBUTA

JUN 4 2003

DS-6-203